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1 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has the moral and

- 2 constitutional responsibility to fully maintain the operational
- 3 security of the Texas-Mexico international border; and
- WHEREAS, the United States Congress has neglected to fully
- 5 fund the maintenance, order, and safety of the Texas-Mexico
- 6 international border; and
- WHEREAS, an unprotected border facilitates drug smuggling and
- 8 human trafficking and opens the door to spillover violence from
- 9 criminal cartels and poses a grave threat to homeland security;
- 10 and
- WHEREAS, on March 28, 2019, the U.S. Department of Homeland
- 12 Security (DHS) Secretary, Kirstjen Nielsen, sent an urgent request
- 13 to the United States Congress describing the border as "a
- 14 humanitarian and security catastrophe that is worsening by the
- 15 day;" and
- WHEREAS, DHS is expected to report the interdiction of 100,000
- 17 migrants in March 2019, which would be the highest monthly total
- 18 in a decade; and
- WHEREAS, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) had 12,000
- 20 migrants in custody the last week of March 2019, an unprecedented
- 21 number; and
- WHEREAS, Secretary Nielsen reports that the volume of
- 23 "vulnerable populations" is unsustainable and DHS, CBP, and Health

- 1 and Human Services (HHS) facilities are at peak capacity to shelter
- 2 unaccompanied alien children (UAC); and
- 3 WHEREAS, due to the unprecedented influx of migrants
- 4 overwhelming the capacity at CBP stations and the ongoing crisis,
- 5 U.S. Border Patrol agents assigned to the Del Rio Sector have begun
- 6 releasing detainees into Texas; and
- 7 WHEREAS, news reports reveal undocumented women have made
- 8 their way into American border towns after being beaten for
- 9 disobeying smugglers, impregnated by strangers, coerced into
- 10 prostitution, shackled to beds and trees, and in at least a
- 11 handful of cases bound with duct tape, rope, or handcuffs; and
- WHEREAS, 194,000 criminal aliens booked into Texas jails from
- 2011-2019 were charged with more than 299,000 criminal offenses;
- 14 and
- WHEREAS, CBP reports the unprecedented increase in migrant
- 16 interdictions is having a detrimental impact on CBP's primary
- 17 border security mission and security posture resulting in up to 40
- 18 percent or more of CBP personnel working to care for, transport,
- 19 and process vulnerable families and children; and
- WHEREAS, transnational criminal organizations and smugglers
- 21 are using large groups of families as diversions to exploit and
- 22 profit from reduced border enforcement presence; and
- 23 WHEREAS, members of Congress have filed legislation to
- 24 designate drug cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations for
- 25 their undermining of American national security with a relentless
- 26 attack on our border while trafficking in human beings; and

- 1 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared the
- 2 situation along the border a "crisis;" and
- 3 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has consistently delayed
- 4 meaningful action on border security, forcing Texas to expend
- 5 significant resources to keep the international border with Mexico
- 6 secure and placing an undue burden on the state's taxpayers; now,
- 7 therefore, be it
- 8 RESOLVED, that the Texas Senate hereby expresses its
- 9 dissatisfaction with the United States Congress' inadequate
- 10 efforts to fully fund the operational security of the Texas-Mexico
- 11 international border; and, be it further
- 12 RESOLVED, that the Texas Senate calls upon the United States
- 13 Congress to adopt a budget that fully funds all means necessary to
- 14 fully secure the Texas-Mexico international border, including, but
- 15 not limited to, deploying personnel, implementing effective
- 16 technologies, and erecting barriers where needed; and, be it
- 17 further
- 18 RESOLVED, that the Texas Senate declares this crisis at the
- 19 Texas-Mexico International Border an emergency; and, be it further
- 20 RESOLVED, the Texas Senate supports the President in his
- 21 efforts to move forward with emergency action; and, be it further
- 22 RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Texas Senate forward
- 23 official copies of this resolution to the President of the United
- 24 States, to the President of the U.S. Senate, and to the Speaker of
- 25 the U.S. House of Representatives, and to all members of the Texas
- 26 delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be
- 27 entered in the Congressional Record.